



Bethal Primary School

Newsletter

Month: January Issue: #1

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Upcoming events

Monday 28th February	Foundation finishes at 3:30pm. No school Wednesday (Foundation only).
Monday 8th March	Labour Day. Public Holiday. School closed.

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome back for the 2021 school year. A special welcome to all our new students and their families. I'm sure they will all settle in quickly, make new friends and learn lots. Everyone is looking forward to another exciting year. We will be continuing with all our specialist programs.

Annual Privacy

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#)

For more information about privacy, see: [Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents](#). This information also available in nine community languages.

COVID- 19 Update

Parents and guardians can come onto the school grounds to drop off or pick up students but must maintain physical distancing. Face masks are recommended when physical distancing of 1.5 metres cannot be maintained.

If a student is unwell, they must stay home. If students become unwell at school, parents will be called to collect them.

A reminder that everyone can protect against infections by practising good hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene. Cover your mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing with a tissue, or cough into your elbow, dispose of the tissue into a bin and then wash your hands afterwards. Wash your hands regularly, after using the toilet, and before eating.

ASSEMBLIES

At this stage we won't be holding whole school assemblies as density limits apply. We will keep you updated.

MOBILE PHONES

There should be no need for any student in primary school to bring a mobile phone to school. If you want your child to have a phone at school in an emergency, you need to send a note with the child and the phone must be left in the school office during the day. I will confiscate any phones that aren't checked into the office and parents will need to collect the phone from me.

School Captains

This year our school captains are **Bhagavada Bhattarai and Noura Haidar** and our vice captains are **Nina Shamoon and La Zaar Hickling Tipuia**. Congratulations to these students.

SWIMMING

The school will be paying for all students to attend swimming this year as we believe it is essential for children to be confident near water. All students from Foundation to year 6 will be going swimming in term 4 this year.

STAFFING

Welcome back to all our staff. A special welcome to our new staff – Mr Dean Vella, Ms Robyn White and Ms Belinda McLaughlin, who is returning from leave. Mr Felipe Paz and Mr Toni Canto Castello will be teaching Spanish.

Unfortunately, there have been some late changes to our staffing for 2021.

Ms Carly Abrey will be leaving us and Ms Jelena Krajisnik will now be teaching grade 3/ 4 K. We thank Carly for her dedication to our students and the years of contribution to Bethal Primary School and wish her well in the future.

Ms Elisabeth Skapetis will now be teaching grade 1S.

2021 GRADE STRUCTURE

TEACHER	GRADE
Ms Kaur	Foundation
Ms Walsh	Foundation
Ms Kaygisiz	1/ 2
Ms Paull	1
Ms Skapetis	1
Ms Micallef/ Ms Katsonis	2

Ms McLaughlin	2
Ms White	3/ 4
Ms Monkcom	3/ 4
Ms Krajisnik	3/ 4
Mr Vella	3/ 4
Ms Selamet/ Mr Hunt	5/ 6
Mr Taylor	5/ 6
Ms Patane	5/ 6
Ms Francione	5/ 6
Ms Garcia Ruisanchez	EAL/ Digital Technologies
Mr Paz	Spanish/ Arts
Mr Toni Canto Castello	Spanish

Ms Hicks	Library/ Tutor Teacher
Ms Whiting	Tutor teacher
Ms Augello	Tutor Teacher
Mr Sedgwick	Physical Education
Ms Iannou	Music/ Tutor Teacher
Ms Borelli	Art

STUDENT ABSENCES

The school will notify parents as soon as practicable when a student's absence is unexplained. If your child is

absent we will be contacting you to find out the reason for your child's absence unless you have informed the school. Please make sure your contact details are up to date.

PARENT FUNDING SUPPORT

Parents will be supported with their children's education in a variety of ways. Camps, sports and excursions fund (CSEF) is available to all families with a valid **Health Care or a Pension Card**. Please bring your card to the office and fill in the application if you are new to the school or have become eligible for the card. Eligible families will receive \$125 per child. This will be used to cover excursions throughout the year. These families will also receive all booklist requisites. All other families will need to pay \$100 per child for the booklist and they will also need to pay for all excursions.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Are you interested in being on School Council?

There are a number of vacancies on School Council this year. We are seeking nominations for the vacant positions. If more nominations are received than there are positions, we will conduct elections. If you are interested in being a school councillor please come and talk to Mrs. De Mercurio or Ms. Bryan. Nomination forms can be collected from the office. You can fill in either the self-nomination form or get another person to nominate you by filling in the other nomination form. Talk to past school councillors about the position to find out how rewarding it is. You don't need to have any experience but you need to be available for monthly meetings. These have been held at 5.30pm on a Monday for about one hour. Meeting time will be negotiated with the new council.

If you have a child enrolled at Bethal and would like to nominate to be on School Council, please fill in a nomination form and return it to the Office before 4.00pm on Friday 19th February.

CANTEEN

Unfortunately Eva has decided not to come back to the canteen this year after running the canteen for many years.

We would like to thank Eva for her service in providing the many lunches and drinks for our students over the years. We wish Eva all the best for the future and I know the students will miss her.

We are currently looking into our options for the canteen in 2021.

JSC's Message



[Double click on me to view!](#)

This month's update



**We welcome our new
Foundation students for 2021!**